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Edwards shows it, very vivid in the reader's mind. If the other capital is less distinct in its impression, it is because its lines are more even and monotonous, its colors more sombre, and its architecture more modern. Moscow has grown up from a distant past, while St. Petersburg is the creation of a single century.

One of the singularities of the Russians is their enormous consumption of tea, which seems to be both food and drink, and to take the place not only of wines and spirits, but of solid nourishment. A dozen cups at a sitting are not a large allowance, and the principal refreshment at railway stations and at eating-houses, as well as the principal entertainment at banquets, is supplied by the Chinese herb. The quality is very superior to that used in England; and, indeed, Mr. Edwards thinks that the English cannot understand the excellence of tea, if they have not tasted it in Moscow. The winter amusements of Moscow, including the questionable enjoyment of sledging, are also pleasantly set forth. On the great question of the liberation of the serfs, while Mr. Edwards supplies much information, he gives no decided opinion; yet we can see that his sympathies are with the Emperor. Of the Emperor's genius and abilities, however, he seems not to have formed a very high estimate. His book is, in every respect, a good one.

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16. — *Account of the Great Comet of 1858.* By G. P. BOND, Director of the Observatory of Harvard College. Cambridge: Welch, Bigelow, & Co., Printers to the University. 1862. 4to. pp. 372. Plates 49.

THIS volume — the third of the “Annals of the Astronomical Observatory of Harvard College” — claims, and we trust will receive from a competent hand, an extended notice that shall at least attempt to do justice to its merits. Its appearance marks an epoch in Cometary Astronomy. The Comet of 1858 stands in some regards alone, among all similar objects of scientific interest, as to its importance and utility. For previous appearances the world was not so well prepared, either in the apparatus for obtaining the desired data, or in the comprehension of the entire scope to which inquiry was to be directed. Never before was “a first-class comet” interrogated as to the crucial problems of cosmical physiology. Until very recently, the heavenly bodies have been investigated only with reference to their position and their laws of motion, and a quarter of a century ago astronomy was little more than celestial topography. Now, if the stars that shine over us every night will not “repeat the story of their birth,” we look to the rare

and marvellous visitant in their realm to perform this office in their stead. Happily the comet of 1858 met perfectly the needs and desires of science. Visible through the telescope for more than nine months, and to the naked eye for more than four, it presented for the whole of the latter period peculiar advantages of position with regard to the earth's orbit, and during its perihelion, moonless nights, brief twilight, and an unclouded sky favored astronomers throughout the Northern hemisphere. In this department of labor, as is well known, our Cambridge observers have been pre-eminently successful, both as discoverers and as registrars of phenomena. Professor Bond has collected all the observations of the Comet of 1858 that have been made accessible, and has collated them with his own, thus giving a minute narrative of its appearances, movements, and changes for the whole time of its stay within our field of vision. The volume is illustrated with steel plates, in which stars and comets are represented by white on a black ground, with the most delicate shadings to delineate the nebulous cometary envelopes. We speak emphatically of these plates, because, though admirably executed, they owe their value, nay, the verisimilitude which constitutes their beauty, to the preliminary labor of the observatory and the careful superintendence of the author. Hoping to recur to this volume shortly, we leave it for the present, in the belief that, in his modest labors to advance the science he loves, Professor Bond is winning for himself a place among the foremost of its cultivators, and of those whose names will be durably associated with its progress.

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17. — *The American Annual Cyclopædia and Register of Important Events of the Year 1861. Embracing Political, Civil, Military, and Social Affairs; Public Documents; Biography, Statistics, Commerce, Finance, Literature, Science, Agriculture, and Mechanical Industry.* New York: D. Appleton & Co. 1862. 8vo. pp. 780.

NEVER was a work more timely than this. Events have crowded upon one another so rapidly, have been so diversely narrated and interpreted, and have been learned with so much of that intense emotion which impairs the keenness of the cognitive faculties, that the history of the last year must lie very vaguely in the memory of our people, and must be represented by a series of impressions rather than by a succession of actions and incidents. The most important office of the volume before us is to furnish an accurate history of the civil and military events of the year to which it relates. This is done with great minuteness, with the tokens of all due care and elaboration, and